

TABLE

Name of species	No. of samples in which sp. is present		Frequency index	
	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65
<i>M. scutellaris</i> (Stål)	31	37	0.94	1.00
<i>M. quadristrigata</i> Breddin	9	25	0.27	0.68
<i>M. thyesta</i> Distant	5	6	0.15	0.16
<i>M. albifrons</i> Motsch.	3	4	0.09	0.11
<i>M. haliploides</i> Horvath	2	3	0.06	0.08
<i>C. distorta</i> Distant	2	2	0.06	0.05
<i>Agrpto corixa</i> sp.	—	1	—	0.027
<i>A. waltirensis</i> Brooks	32	22	0.97	0.59
<i>A. bouvieri</i> Kirkaldy	25	19	0.76	0.51
<i>A. breddini</i> Kirkaldy	25	19	0.76	0.51
<i>A. barbata</i> Brooks	8	4	0.24	0.11
<i>A. sardea</i> (Herrich-Schaffer)	1	1	0.03	0.027
<i>N. marshalli</i> (Scott.)	4	3	0.12	0.08
<i>R. elongata</i> Fabricius	9	21	0.28	0.57
<i>R. filiformis</i> (Fabricius)	13	13	0.39	0.35
<i>R. digitata</i> Hafiz & Pradhan	3	—	0.09	—
<i>R. varipes</i> Stål	—	1	—	0.027
<i>L. griseus</i> (Guér)	—	2	—	0.05
<i>P. frontalis</i> (Fieber)	10	20	0.3	0.54
<i>Plea</i> sp.	—	2	—	0.05
<i>D. rusticum</i> (Fabricius)	—	6	—	0.16

Total number of samples examined, 1963-64=33

1964-65=37

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## A further note on *Limnia paludicola* Elberg (Dipt., Sciomyzidae)

By L. N. KIDD

In a previous note (Kidd, 1967), I referred to the species described by Elberg (1965) as *Limnia paludicola*. Commenting on my remarks in a footnote, the late J. E. Collin pointed out that "small differences within the range of normal variation, must be expected, especially in

the case of differences in *certain parts only* of its genitalia". He concluded by saying that to him it appeared obvious that *paludicola* Elb. could not be considered a distinct species from *L. unguicornis* Scop.

Since writing the above note I have, through the kindness of Dr. L. V. Knutson, been able to examine specimens of the genus *Limnia* taken in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, France and England, and further British material was kindly sent to me by Mr. P. J. Chandler and Mr. L. Parmenter.

The material sent by Dr. Knutson had already been separated into the above two species and working over it myself I separated as *L. paludicola* the same specimens already determined as this species by Dr. Knutson. In each case the specimen seemed to be distinct in the shape of the anterior and posterior surstyli of the male as pointed out in the original description. Furthermore, none of the slight variations noted in *unguicornis* appeared to approach *paludicola* in form.

Elberg (1965) has pointed out that there are differences in distribution by habitat in Estonia, and in correspondence with me he says that he has found *L. paludicola* only in habitats with *Sphagnum* or peat, and has never found *L. unguicornis* on fens, swamps, marshes, etc. But in river valleys and on swampy shores of eutrophic lakes both species are often found together. However, in this case he states that transitional forms are not encountered. He further points out, "the independent status of the new species is not in doubt, since there is apparently a distinct reproductive isolation between their populations". Further distribution records of both *L. paludicola* Elb. and *L. unguicornis* Scop. are given in Elberg (1968) which deals with Sciomyzidae taken in Lithuania.

When describing *L. paludicola* Dr. Elberg stated that the female could also be easily distinguished from that of *L. unguicornis* by the colouring of the thorax. In *paludicola* the median longitudinal stripe of the scutum is dark brown and is only lightly, if at all, dusted. A number of females provisionally identified as *paludicola* by Dr. Knutson agree with Elberg's description and two females taken by myself at Askham Bog, Yorkshire, in July 1954 also appear to be this species. The latter determination also seems to be confirmed by two males taken at Askham Bog on the same day, which possess the male genital characters of Elberg's species.

In view of the fact that Mr. Collin dissected only seven specimens (see Collin 1966) it may well be that he only examined one species. Whilst it is still possible that intermediate forms may eventually be found between *L. unguicornis* and *L. paludicola*, until these turn up I venture to suggest that it is a little premature to write-off the latter as an unacceptable species.

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